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**Law Offices of
YOUNG & BASILE, P.C.
Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights**

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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

DATE: March 12, 2004

TO: Examiner Eric Compton

FROM: Thomas E. Bejin

RE: S.N. 09/825,416

OUR REFERENCE: RST-007-B

FAX NO: 703.872.9306 After Final

PAGES TO FOLLOW: 8

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Our Reference: RST-007-B

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

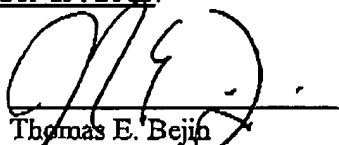
Applicant: Shoberg, Ralph S.
Serial Number: 09/825,416
Filing Date: April 3, 2001
Examiner/Art Group Unit: Eric B. Compton/3726
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUDITING A
TENSION LOAD IN THE THREADED FASTENER

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Sir:

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Thomas E. Bejin
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 37089
(248) 649-3333YOUNG & BASILE, P.C.
3001 W. Big Beaver Rd.
Suite 624
Troy, Michigan 48084

Our Reference: RST-007-B

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Shoberg, Ralph S.

Serial Number:

09/825,416

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Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUDITING A
TENSION LOAD IN THE THREADED FASTENER

COMMUNICATION

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Claims 1-17 cancelled without prejudice.

18. (Currently amended). A method for comparing relative clamp loads between a plurality of previously installed threaded fasteners comprising:

providing a plurality of previously tightened threaded fasteners;

applying an additional torque in a tightening direction a first of the tightened threaded fasteners until a break away torque is reached;

measuring the torque values applied to the first previously tightened fastener and measuring the angle through which the first fastener rotates;

defining a first zero-angle point to be a point at which a tangent from a torque versus angle plot, created from the measured torque and angle values from the first previously tightened fastener, crosses an angle axis;

defining a first audit angle to be the angle between the first zero-angle point and the angle associated break away torque for the first previously tightened threaded fastener;

applying an additional torque in a tightening direction a second of the previously

* : * COMMUNICATION RESULT REPORT (DEC. 19. 2003 12:31PM) * : *

TTI YOUNG & BASILE

TRANSMITTED/STORED: DEC. 19. 2003 12:29PM

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